



**Pacific Northwest Region**  
**Malheur National Forest**  
**541-575-3000**  
[www.fs.usda.gov/malheur](http://www.fs.usda.gov/malheur)

# News Release

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## ***North half continues spring prescribed burning***

**JOHN DAY, OR** – Fire managers on the Blue Mountain and Prairie City Ranger Districts are continuing with prescribed burns while conditions permit.

Exact burn days will vary depending on weather, forest fuels, and wildlife conditions.

Areas being considered for treatment beginning as early as Sunday, June 7 include:

- Knox unit in the Southeastern portion of the Prairie City Ranger District.
- Pine Creek Project on the North Face of the Strawberry Mountains in the Pine Creek and Indian Creek areas.
- Damon North unit, near Pearson Creek and two miles east of Swick Old Growth.

Burning may have some short-term impacts on air quality levels, but any burning activity will be accomplished during weather conditions that should minimize impacts of smoke on local communities.

Areas to be burned are often prepared by constructing a fire line around them and using existing roads and trails as fire breaks. Firing or ignition of the area will be accomplished by ground personnel utilizing drip torches and, on larger projects, by a helicopter mounted firing devices. Each prescribed burn has an organized command structure including a burn boss, firing boss, and a holding boss that provides and implements management of the burn.

Prescribed fires are an integral part of land management across the Malheur National Forest. Each of these burns represents many hours of planning and preparation. Specific weather and vegetative conditions must be in place in order to conduct these burns. Prescribed burns are designed to both reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires as well to restore overall health of the National Forest System lands.

As spring rains diminish and fire activity increases, opportunities for prescribed burning will become limited. Managers will continue to monitor conditions and keep the public updated about planned treatments. Maps of the burn units and updates will continue to be available at Malheur National Forest Offices and online at [www.fs.usda.gov/malheur](http://www.fs.usda.gov/malheur).

Also, be sure to follow [U.S. Forest Service- Malheur National Forest](https://www.facebook.com/USForestService-MalheurNationalForest) on Facebook and [@MalheurNF](https://twitter.com/MalheurNF) on Twitter.

For further information, contact forest staff at 541-575-3000 or the Day Interagency Dispatch Center at 541-575-1321.

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